~~9/31~~ 10/1/69

Dear Gary and Paul,

Bud phoned me yesterday p.m., with little time, to tell me he had been able to get nothing from N.O. while he was there on law business. Jim is in the hospital, as the papers reported. Diagnosis, slipped disk. Alcock is carrying the load of the campaign plus the office and no one, in Jim's absence, was about to do anything or make any decision. This is the way Bud put it, anyway. I had asked him to see Lou and ask certain things of him, had he never got to see Lou. This is not surprising, because Lou works long and hard and often is not in the office for long stretches.

However, I think what is really represented here is, most likely, that they have been told or less likely, an attitude toward Bud.

In any event, it makes even more culpable, in my view, Vince's failures and abdications, for he should and could have gotten the transcripts -which are a public record - for us, if not for his abdicated self. I tell myself I am not impartial, but search as I have, I find no rational explanation. Gary will recall that long ago I anticipated this and asked him to ask Vince.

I think, ultimately, we may be able to get those we want.

I'd like both of you, as soon as you can, to tell me which ones you think most important and I will try in other ways.

Bud asked me when I'd be in town this week. I have no plans for it but told him I'd go down any day he asked. He says as soon as he cleans up the accumulation enough to know when he'll be free he'll phone. Perhaps I'll know more than. If there is anything else, I'll let you know.

I'll write John Nichols and ask him to get the Shaneyfelt testimony, as I have in thepast.

My personal opinion is that much of the rest of it is without value, but I think the Willises are an exception. I arranged for their testimony, and I know and, to a degree, have already published, the essence of what they knew and hadn't been asked. The difference is that here it withstood cross-examination in open court.

But that part has been out of my mind so ,ong I may forget others where there may be value.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg